



Environmental NEWS RELEASE



Technical Contact: Sam Borries
(312) 353-2885

Media Contact: Susan Pastor
(312) 353-1325

For Immediate Release: August 25, 1995

No. 95-SF84

EPA: SAUGET SITE G CLEANED UP

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that hazardous waste cleanup at a portion of the Sauget Area 2 site, Sauget, IL, has been completed.

At Site G, which is part of Sauget Area 2, EPA excavated and consolidated about 15,000 yards of on-site contaminated soil; consolidated contaminated soil from nearby Wiese Engineering parking lot, Hankins property, and Queeny Avenue on top of the landfill; covered the excavated areas with 18 to 24 inches of clean soil; seeded the area to restore the vegetative cover and control erosion; and stabilized and solidified 1,200 yards of oil pit material to prevent future movement off site and to provide a firm base for the landfill cover.

Four unexplained fires were reported to EPA in 1994. Part of this year's cleanup also included clearing the site to prevent more fires.

Recent sampling results showed high levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) and dioxins in the soil. Such contamination poses health risks to people who may come into contact with it.

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Earlier this year, another section of the Sauget area--Site Q--was cleaned up. The Sauget sites are in a combined residential and industrial area. Sites G and Q are mainly in the industrial section. However, if not cleaned up, contaminants could move onto other properties or into nearby Dead Creek, which flows into the Mississippi River.

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